

MARVEL

002

POE

STAR WARS



SOULE
NOTO

DAMERON



n o t o

Book I, Part II
BLACK SQUADRON

It has been thirty years since the defeat of the Empire, but a new threat has arrived. General Leia Organa is leading the Resistance to keep the First Order at bay.

Leia has tasked star pilot Poe Dameron with finding Lor San Tekka – an explorer who may know the location of Luke Skywalker. Poe has assembled a team of pilots – Black Squadron – and together they have set off to the explorer's last known whereabouts: a planet whose residents worship and care for a massive egg.

Meanwhile, Poe's droid, BB-8, has discovered a tracker on Poe's X-wing, a tracker Poe believes was placed there by the First Order. Poe's suspicions are proven correct when he discovers the enemy is closer than anticipated....

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OBSTACLE,
SIR. YOUR
ORDERS?

MM. AN
OBSTACLE.

HAVE I EVER
MENTIONED,
TROOPER, THAT I
USED TO BE ONE
OF YOU?



YES,
SIR. MANY
TIMES.

IT WAS A
LONG TIME AGO,
BUT THINGS HAVEN'T
CHANGED THAT MUCH.
I STILL REMEMBER
WHAT IT'S LIKE INSIDE
THAT HELMET.

AMBITION
IS FORBIDDEN.
CONFORMITY IS
EVERYTHING.
THAT'S THE
JOB.

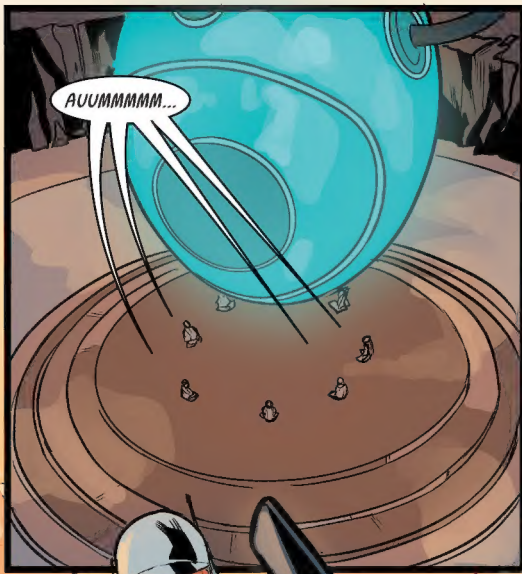


BUT YOU'RE
ALL PEOPLE UNDER
THERE. THAT'S WHY I
TRY SO HARD TO
TEACH YOU.

SO TRUST
ME WHEN I TELL
YOU THIS,
TROOPER--



--OBSTACLES
ARE FOR LITTLE
PEOPLE.



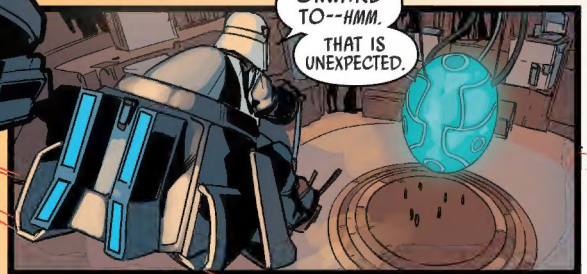
AUUMMMM...



KTHOOM!



ONWARD!



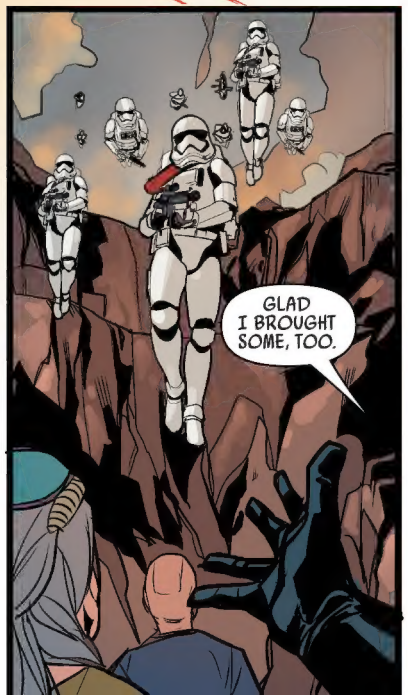
ONWARD
TO--HMM.
THAT IS
UNEXPECTED.



HOW DARE
YOU BLAST YOUR
WAY INTO THIS SACRED
CHAMBER? THAT DOOR
WAS SEALED FOR A
REASON

YOU MUST LEAVE,
INTERLOPER, BEFORE
YOUR PRESENCE POLLUTES THE
SACRED ENERGIES OF THIS
CHAMBER. DO NOT FORCE US
TO DESTROY YOU.

MY, MY,
LOOK AT
ALL THESE
GUNS.



GLAD
I BROUGHT
SOME, TOO.



I AM SORRY ABOUT THE DOOR. PERHAPS I SHOULD HAVE JUST KNOCKED.

BUT WE'LL FIX IT, I PROMISE.

WE'LL FIX THAT DOOR, RIGHT?

YES, SIR. OF COURSE.



MY NAME IS AGENT TEREX, OF THE FIRST ORDER. I'M VERY PLEASSED TO MEET YOU ALL.

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THAT EGG, BY THE WAY? THAT THING IS JUST FABULOUS.

IT IS OUR CHARGE. WE ARE THE CRÈCHE. THE EGG NURTURES THE SAVIOR UNBORN, WHO WILL SAVE US ALL ON THE DAY OF ITS EMERGENCE.

WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE? WHAT DO YOU WANT?



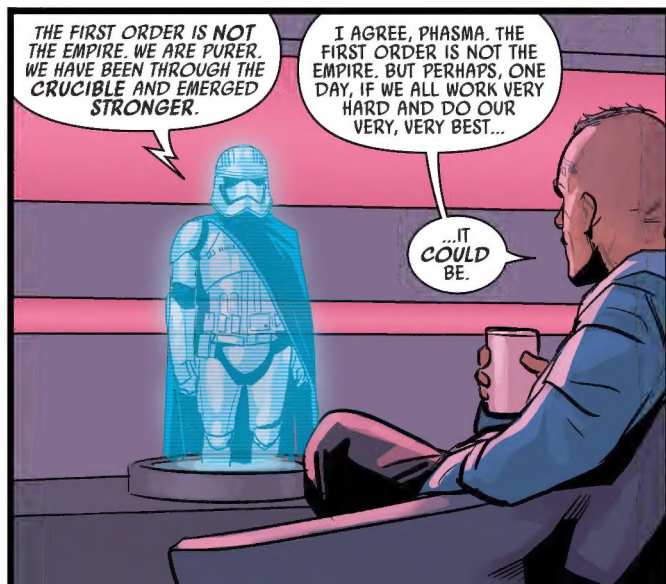
WHY, THAT'S SIMPLE.

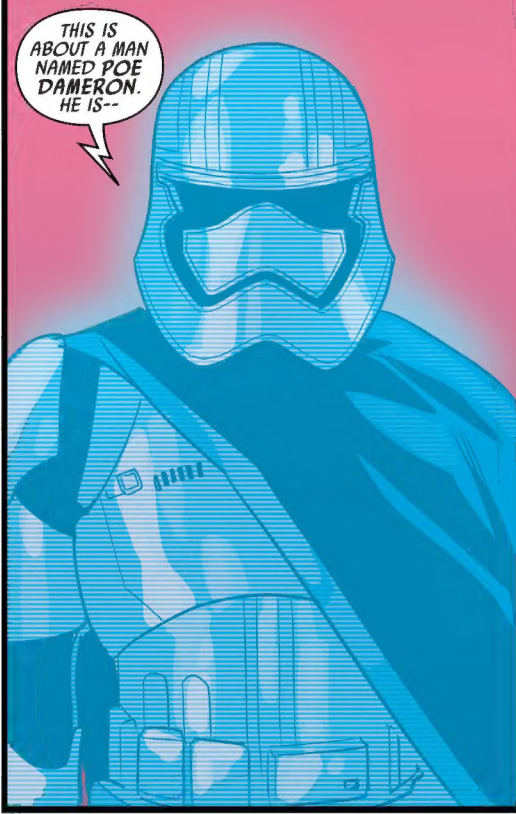


POE DAMERON, OF COURSE.

UH-OH.

The Carrion Spike.
Earlier...





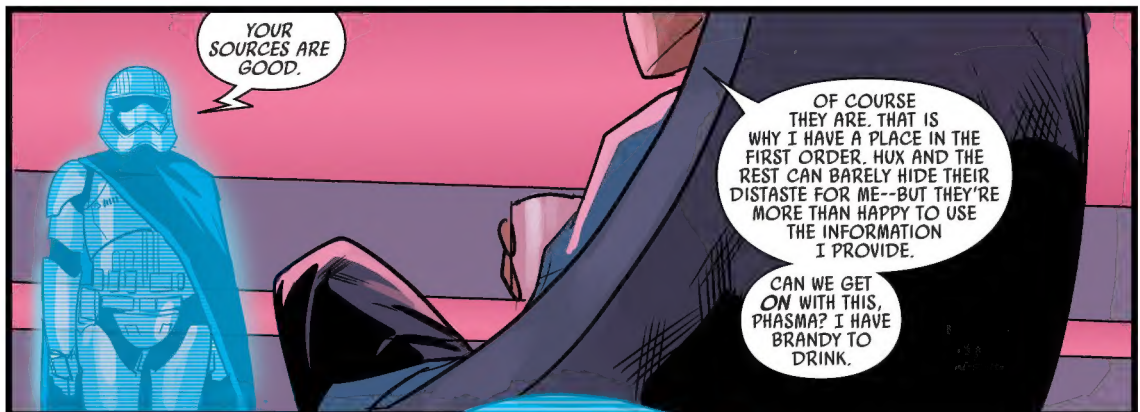
THIS IS ABOUT A MAN NAMED POE DAMERON. HE IS--



A YOUNG PILOT IN THE REPUBLIC NAVY, EXTREMELY SKILLED, BY ALL ACCOUNTS.

RECENTLY RECRUITED INTO ORGANA'S RESISTANCE, WHICH IS WORKING TO THWART THE FIRST ORDER'S NOBLE EFFORTS TO TIDY UP THE GALAXY.

HISTORY DOES LIKE A CIRCLE, EH?



YOUR SOURCES ARE GOOD.

OF COURSE THEY ARE. THAT IS WHY I HAVE A PLACE IN THE FIRST ORDER. HUX AND THE REST CAN BARELY HIDE THEIR DISTASTE FOR ME--BUT THEY'RE MORE THAN HAPPY TO USE THE INFORMATION I PROVIDE.

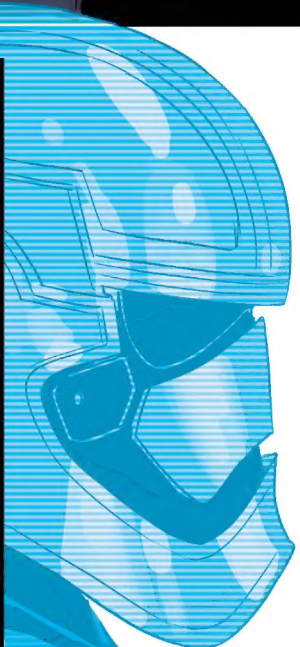
CAN WE GET ON WITH THIS, PHASMA? I HAVE BRANDY TO DRINK.



DAMERON RECENTLY LED A MISSION THAT INTERCEPTED KEY INFORMATION BEING PASSED TO US BY A NEW REPUBLIC SENATOR.*

WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT HE GOT AND WHAT THE RESISTANCE INTENDS TO DO WITH IT.

*SEE THE BEFORE THE AWAKENING NOVEL!
-JORDAN. D WHITE



YOU'VE BEEN ASSIGNED SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES TO COMPLETE THIS MISSION.

THE TRUE OFFENSIVE WILL BEGIN SOON...BUT ONLY IF THERE ARE NO LOOSE ENDS.



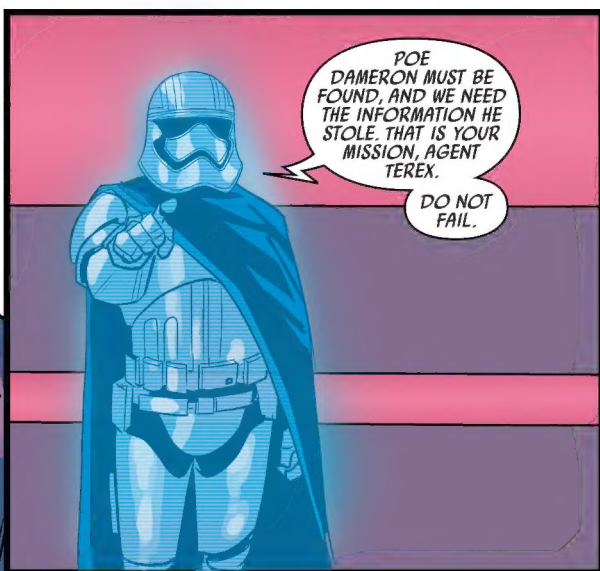
TRULY? WE'RE
FINALLY GOING TO
START FIGHTING?
STARKILLER'S
READY?

WHERE
DID YOU
HEAR THAT
TERM?



IT'S MY
JOB TO KNOW
EVERYTHING, PHASMA.
BUT DON'T FRET,
MY DEAR
CAPTAIN.

IT'S
ALSO MY JOB
TO KEEP
SECRETS.



POE
DAMERON MUST BE
FOUND, AND WE NEED
THE INFORMATION HE
STOLE. THAT IS YOUR
MISSION, AGENT
TEREX.

DO
NOT
FAIL.



HOW MANY
TIMES DO I NEED TO
SUCCEED BEFORE ALL OF
YOU STOP TELLING ME NOT
TO FAIL? I'VE BEEN DOING
THIS WORK SINCE BEFORE
YOU WERE BORN,
PHASMA.

YES, TEREX.
EVERY OFFICER
IN THE FIRST ORDER
KNOWS EXACTLY
WHERE YOU CAME
FROM. THAT IS
WHY WE SAY IT.



DO
NOT FAIL,
TEREX.

FIND POE
DAMERON.



POE
DAMERON?
WHO IS
THAT?



BB-8, GET
IN TOUCH WITH
SNAP AND THE REST
OF BLACK
SQUADRON.

THIS COULD
GET **BAD**. I CAN
FEEL IT. WE HAVE
TO TRY TO HELP
THESE PEOPLE.

WRRRP
BLEEP.



HE'S A PILOT WITH
THE REPUBLIC. HUMAN.
HE USUALLY FLIES A
BLACK-AND-ORANGE
STARFIGHTER.

HOW WOULD
WE KNOW HIM?
THE CRÈCHE HAS
BEEN ALONE IN THIS
CAVERN FOR YEARS,
SAFEGUARDING THE
SAVIOR UNBORN.

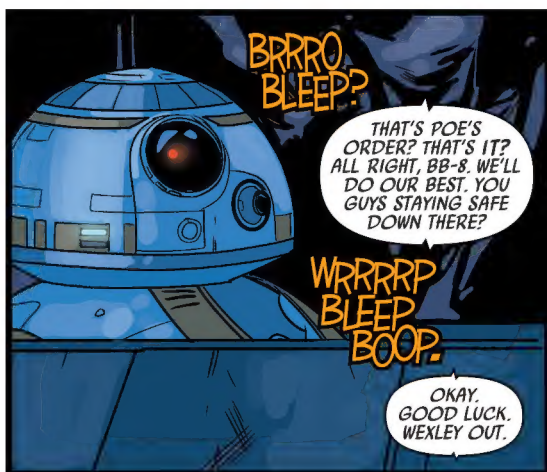
AS YOU
SAW, THE
ENTRANCE WAS
SEALED.



AWWW.
LOOK AT
YOU. THAT'S
ADORABLE.



YES,
SIR.

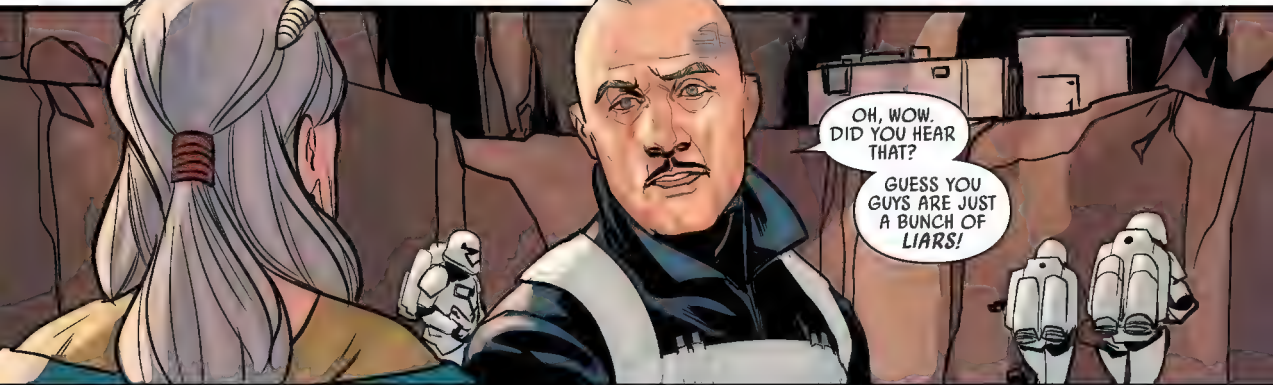
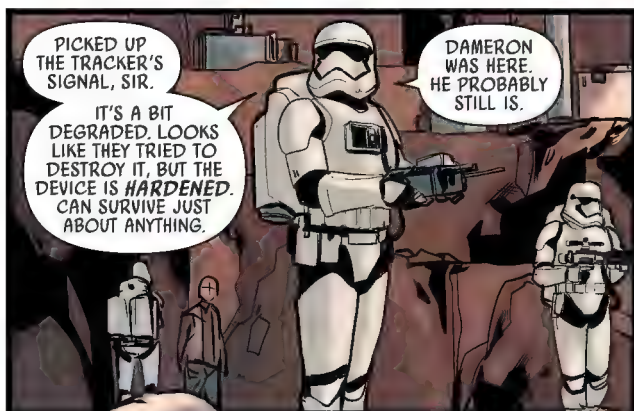


BRRRO
BLEEP?

THAT'S POE'S
ORDER? THAT'S IT?
ALL RIGHT, BB-8. WE'LL
DO OUR BEST. YOU
GUYS STAYING SAFE
DOWN THERE?

WRRRP
BLEEP
BOOP.

OKAY.
GOOD LUCK.
WEXLEY OUT.



LEVERAGE?
THAT WAS REALLY
ALL POE SAID, SNAP?
THAT WAS THE ENTIRE
ORDER?

"GET ME SOME
LEVERAGE?"

YEAH, BUT
WHAT WAS HE
SUPPOSED TO SAY, JESS?
HE DOESN'T KNOW THE
TACTICAL SITUATION
UP HERE.

HE TRUSTS
US TO FIGURE IT OUT.
BETTER THAN GIVE
US BAD ORDERS. MARK
OF A GOOD COMMANDER.
AND TRUST ME, I'VE
HAD MY SHARE OF
BAD ONES.

FAIR ENOUGH,
L'ULO. THAT'S
THE REAL ORDER.
"FIGURE IT OUT."
OKAY, LET'S RUN
THROUGH IT.

"THE FIRST ORDER HAS CONTROL OF THE ENTRANCE
TO THE CAVERN WHERE POE'S STUCK, AND THEY JUST
SENT A STORMTROOPER SQUAD DOWN THERE,
INCLUDING SOME SPECIAL WEAPONS TROOPS.

"WE COULD BLOW IT UP, BUT WE
AREN'T ALLOWED TO ENGAGE
WITH FIRST ORDER FORCES
UNLESS THEY SHOOT FIRST.

WE NEED THAT
PLATFORM, KARE. THERE'S
NOWHERE TO LAND ON THIS
PLANET--IT'S ALL MOUNTAINS
AND RAVINES. IF WE STAY HERE
TOO LONG, WE'LL RUN
OUT OF FUEL.

BUT IF WE
CAN GET IT, WE'LL
HAVE A LANDING SPOT
FOR OUR SHIPS, A CHANCE
TO REFUEL AND CONTROL
OVER THE ONLY WAY IN
AND OUT OF THAT
CAVE. LEVERAGE.

KNOW WHAT I
THINK, SNAP? IF WE CAN GET
RID OF THOSE TIES, WE CAN DO
THIS. THE GROUND TROOPS ON
THE PLATFORM WOULD SURRENDER
RIGHT AWAY. THEY CAN'T
FIGHT STARSHIPS.

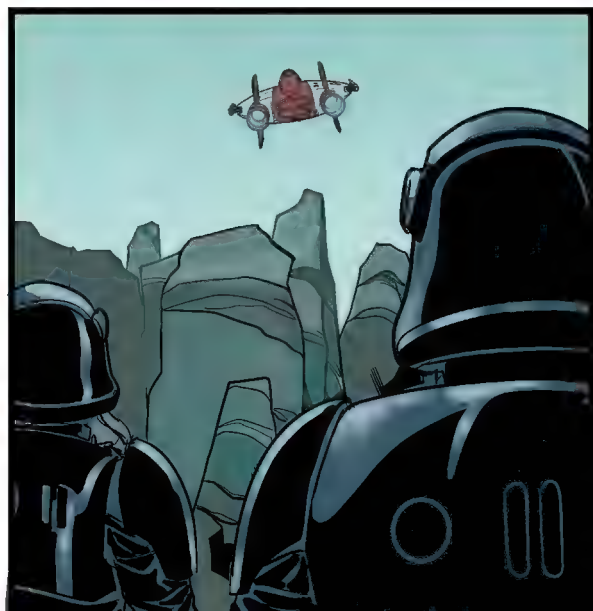
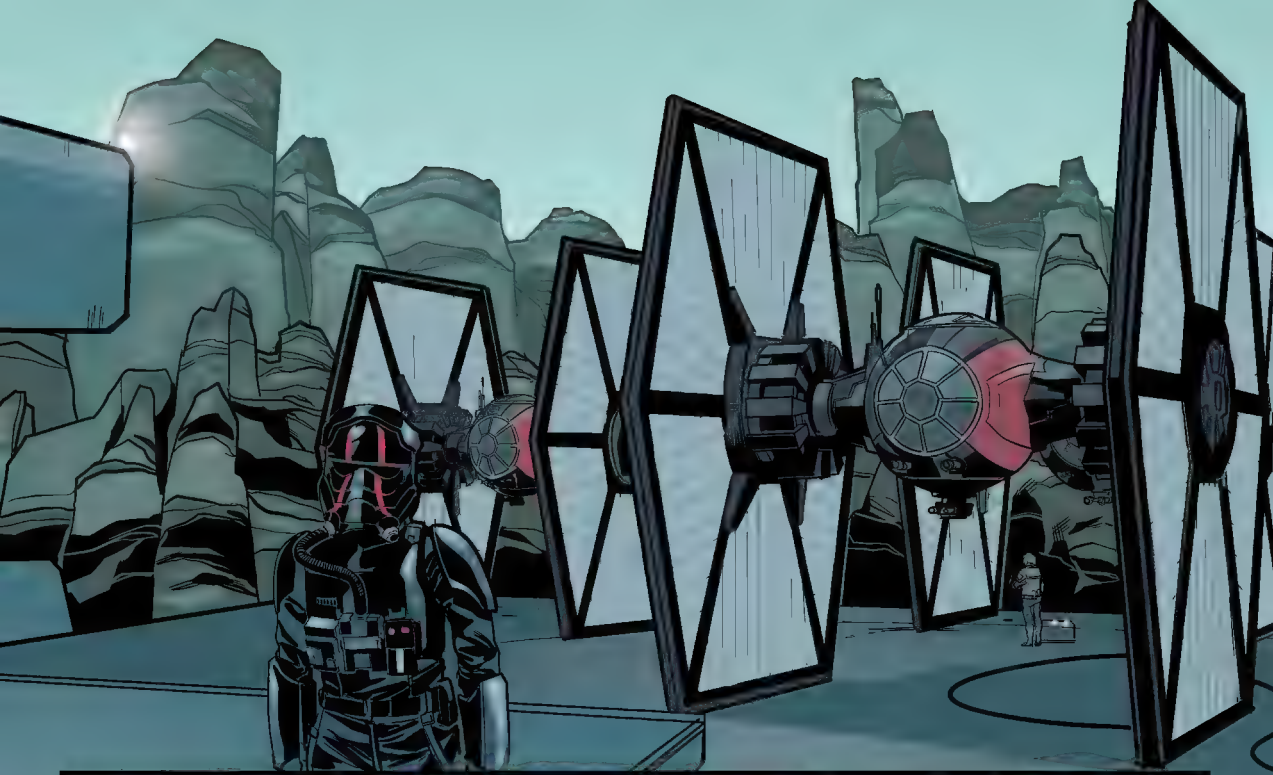
WE NEED
TO GET THE TIES
TO ATTACK US.
SOMEHOW.

IT'S A GOOD IDEA, JESS,
BUT TIES ARE FASTER AND
MORE MANEUVERABLE
THAN X-WINGS.

ESPECIALLY
THOSE NEW SPECIAL
FORCES MODELS. ON
A PLANET LIKE THIS, WITH
THESE CANYONS...
COULD BE TRICKY.

GOOD THING
WE'RE NOT ALL
FLYING X-WINGS,
THEN, ISN'T IT?

LEAVE IT
TO ME.

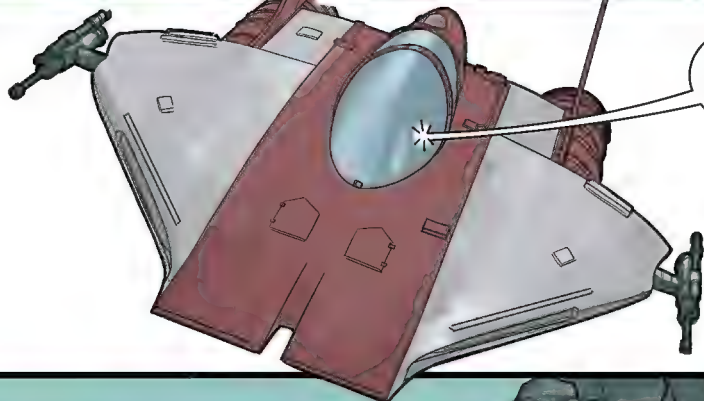




BLAST.
IT DIDN'T
WORK.

LOOKS LIKE
THEY HAVE THE SAME
ORDERS WE DO. THEY
WON'T SHOOT FIRST
EITHER.

IT'S ALL
RIGHT, L'ULO.
WE'LL FIGURE OUT
SOMETHING
ELSE.



LET
ME TRY
ANOTHER
PASS.

ANOTHER
PASS? IF IT
DIDN'T WORK THE
FIRST TIME, WHAT
MAKES YOU
THINK--

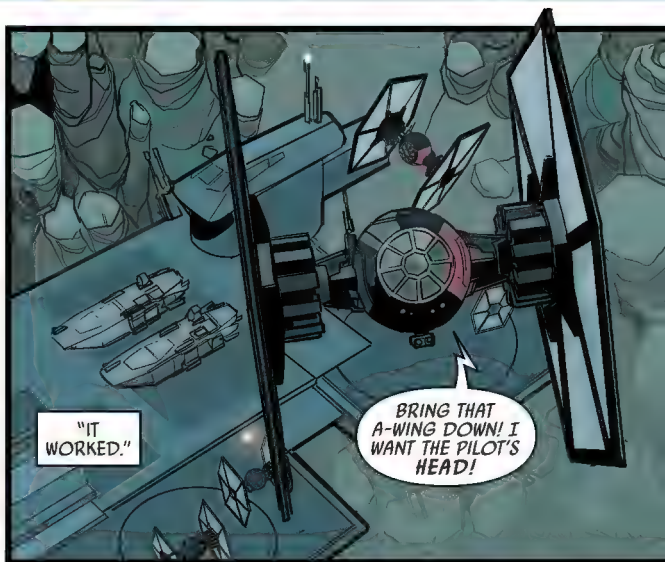


SZICK! SZICK!



L'ULO!
WHAT DID
YOU DO?

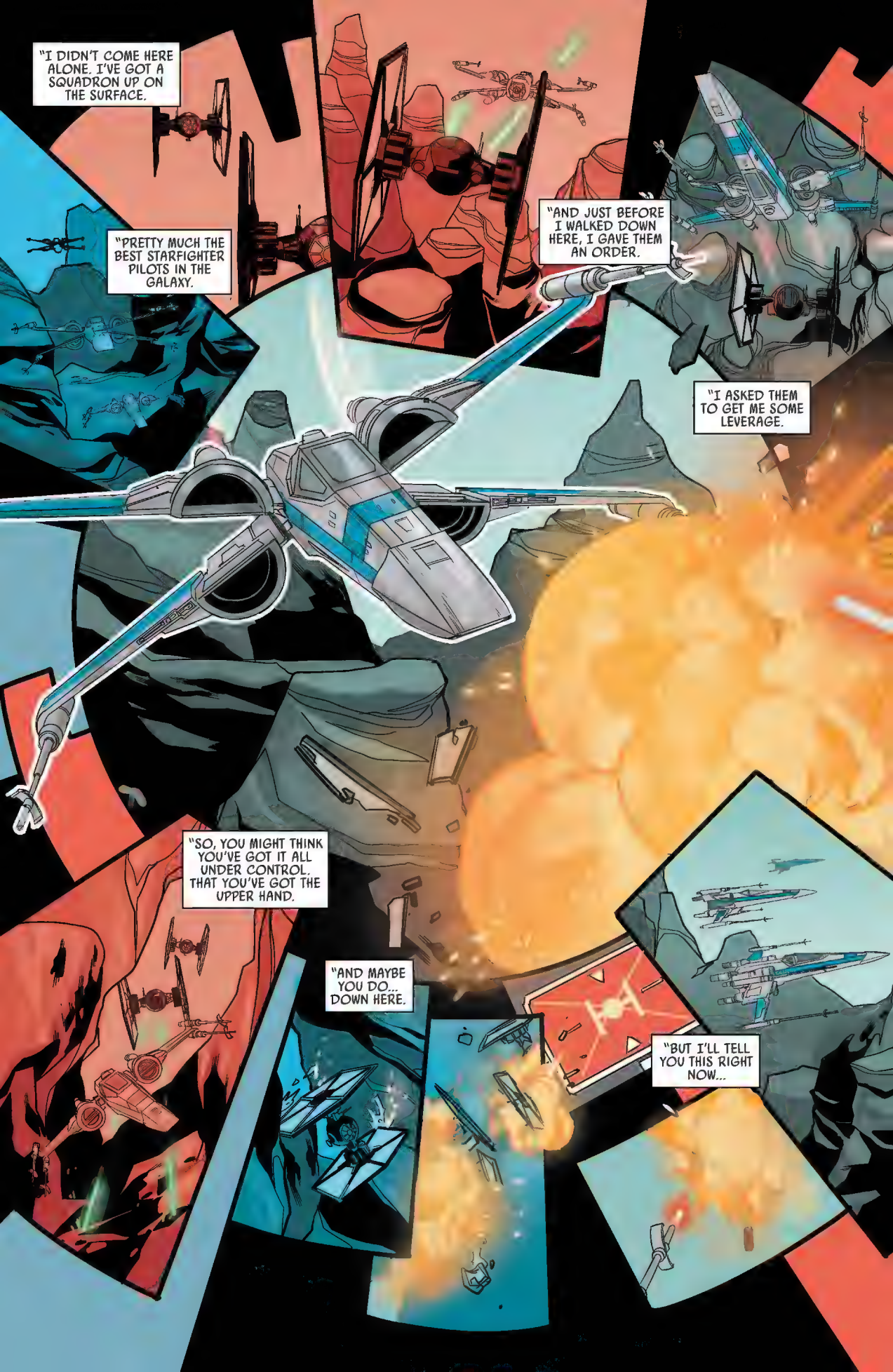
FINGER
SLIPPED. BUT
HEY, GOOD
NEWS.



"IT
WORKED."

BRING THAT
A-WING DOWN! I
WANT THE PILOT'S
HEAD!





"I DIDN'T COME HERE
ALONE. I'VE GOT A
SQUADRON UP ON
THE SURFACE.

"PRETTY MUCH THE
BEST STARFIGHTER
PILOTS IN THE
GALAXY.

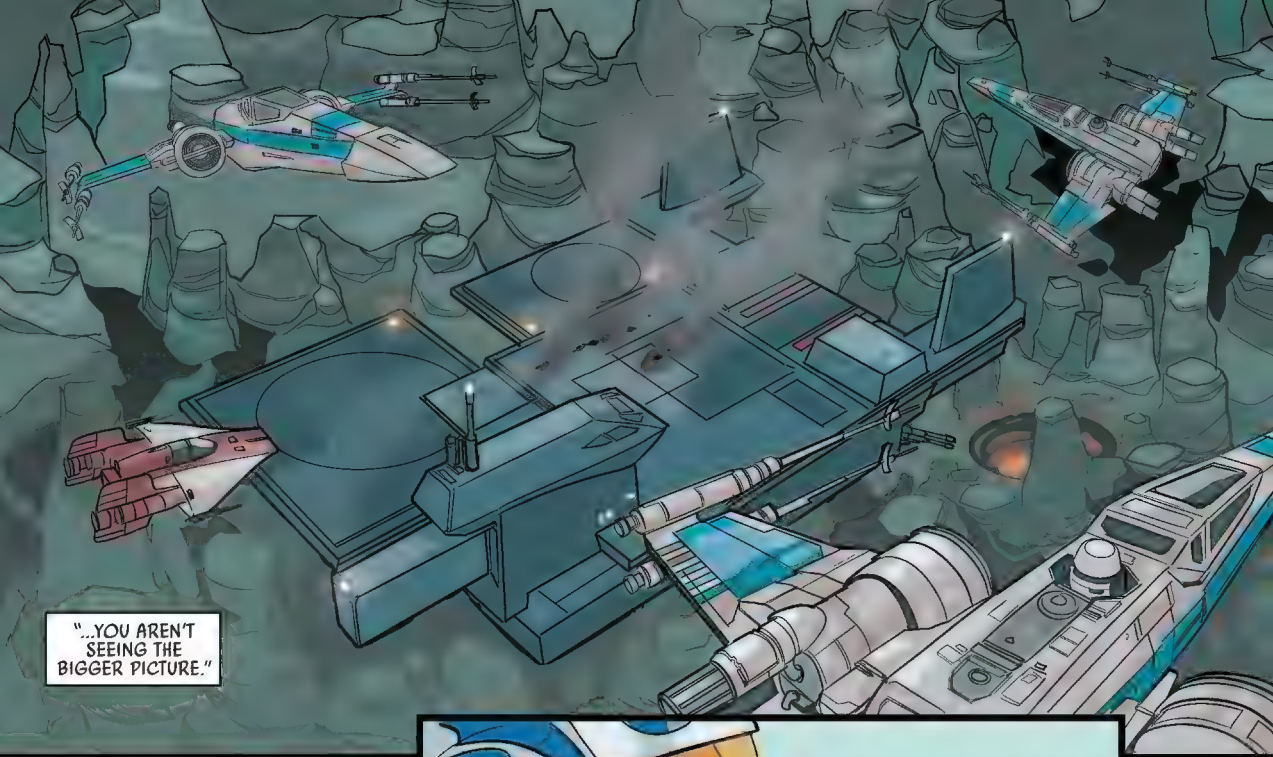
"AND JUST BEFORE
I WALKED DOWN
HERE, I GAVE THEM
AN ORDER.

"I ASKED THEM
TO GET ME SOME
LEVERAGE.

"SO, YOU MIGHT THINK
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL
UNDER CONTROL.
THAT YOU'VE GOT THE
UPPER HAND.

"AND MAYBE
YOU DO...
DOWN HERE.

"BUT I'LL TELL
YOU THIS RIGHT
NOW..."

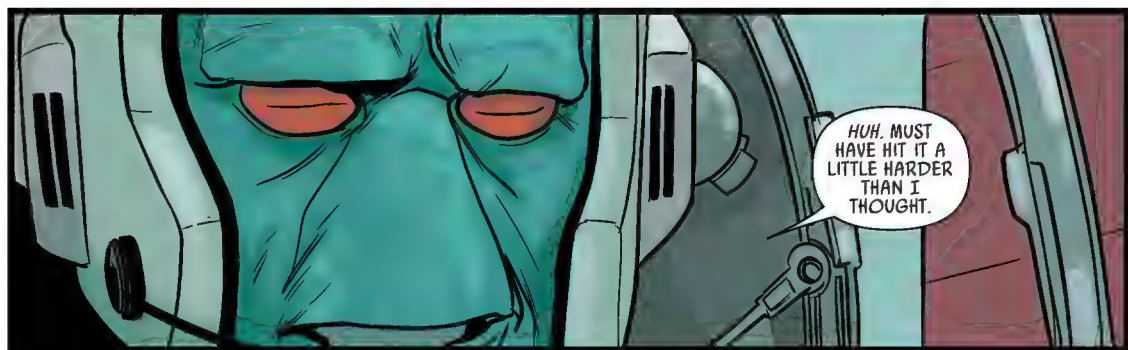


"...YOU AREN'T
SEEING THE
BIGGER PICTURE."

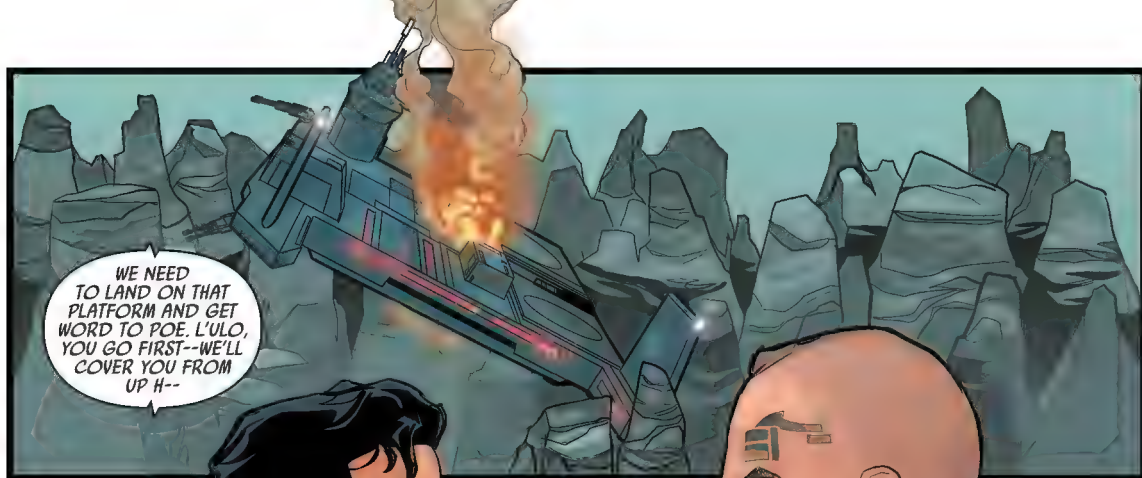


GOOD JOB,
EVERYONE.

WE NEED
TO LAND ON THAT
PLATFORM AND GET
WORD TO POE. L'ULO,
YOU GO FIRST--WE'LL
COVER YOU FROM
UP H--



HUH, MUST
HAVE HIT IT A
LITTLE HARDER
THAN I
THOUGHT.

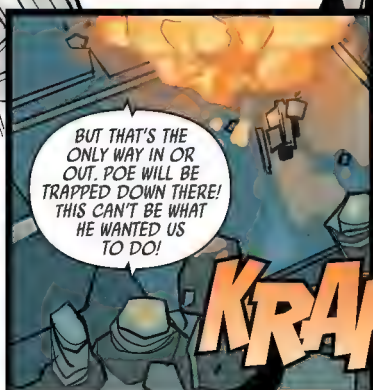


WE NEED TO LAND ON THAT PLATFORM AND GET WORD TO POE. L'ULO, YOU GO FIRST--WE'LL COVER YOU FROM UP H--

LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT A STALEMATE HERE, PAL.



THAT'S NOT ALL. LOOK AT THE TRAJECTORY. IT'S GOING DOWN RIGHT OVER THE CAVE ENTRANCE.



BUT THAT'S THE ONLY WAY IN OR OUT. POE WILL BE TRAPPED DOWN THERE! THIS CAN'T BE WHAT HE WANTED US TO DO!

KRAKOOOM!



THE FIRST ORDER'S TRAPPED DOWN THERE TOO. IF I KNOW POE... THAT'LL BE ALL HE NEEDS.

YOU THINK SO, SNAP? REALLY?

I... I HOPE SO.



THWOOOSH!



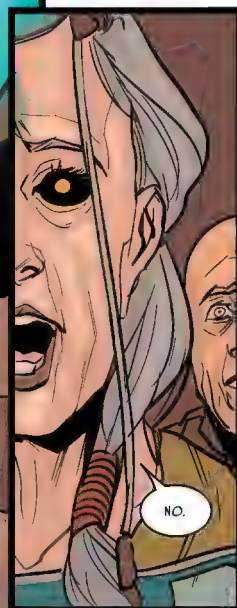
STALEMATE? OH, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.



GENTLEMEN, IF YOU PLEASE...



**FW
OSH!**

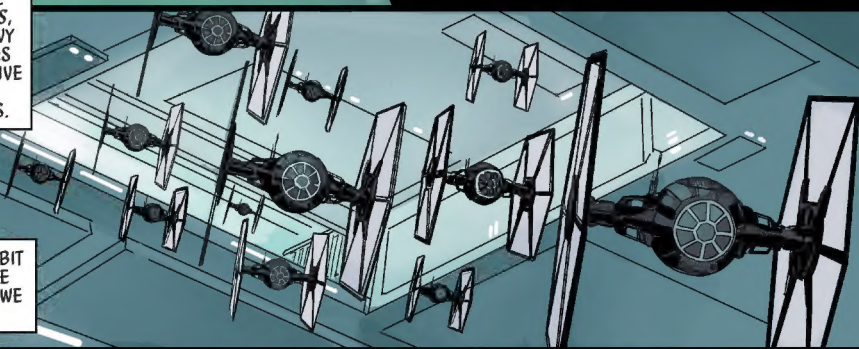


"AND I DIDN'T
COME HERE
ALONE, EITHER.

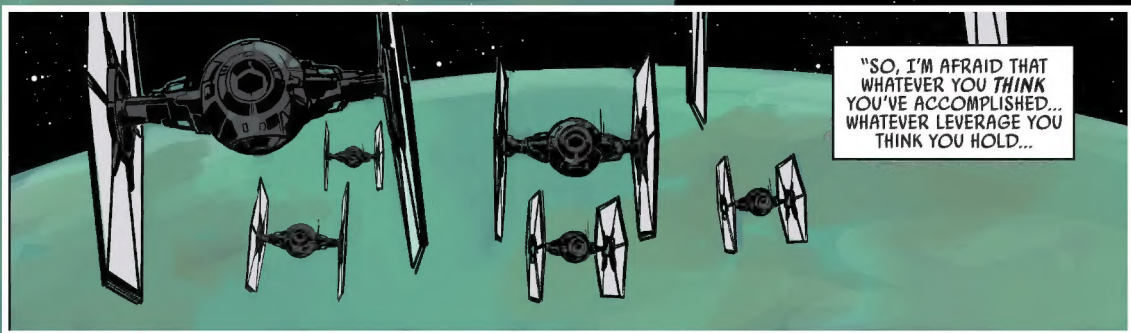


"IN FACT, I CAME HERE
ABOARD THE RAVENOUS,
A MAXIMA-A CLASS HEAVY
CRUISER WHICH CARRIES
AN **EXTREMELY** IMPRESSIVE
COMPLEMENT OF
FIGHTERS AND TROOPS.

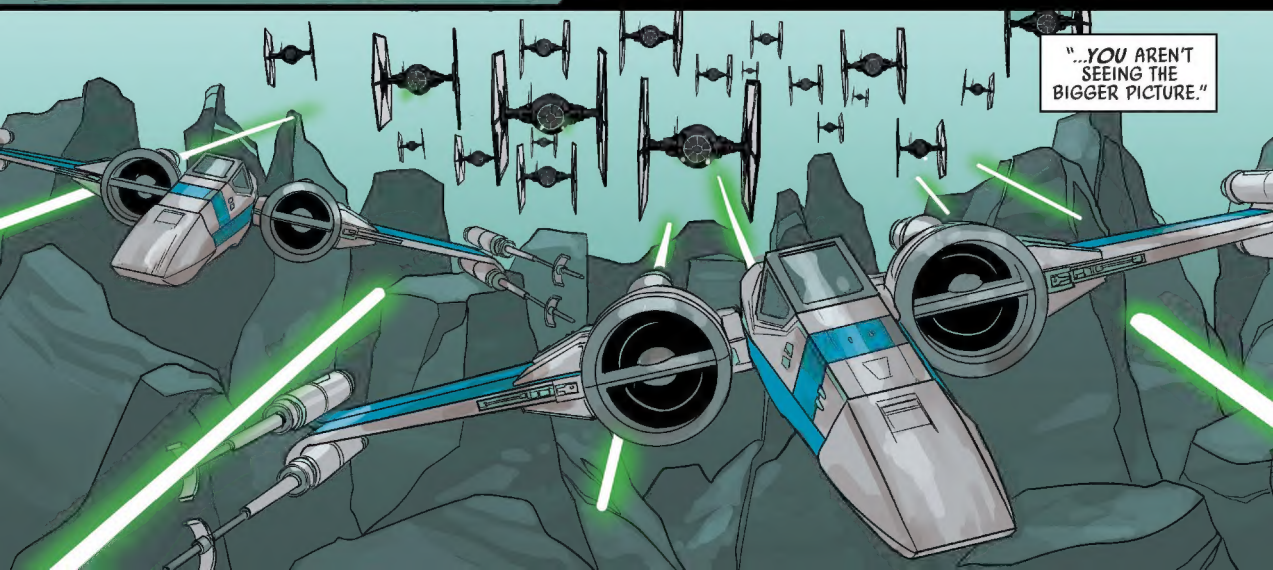
"IT'S IN ORBIT
ABOVE THE
PLANET AS WE
SPEAK.



"SO, I'M AFRAID THAT
WHATEVER YOU *THINK*
YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED...
WHATEVER LEVERAGE YOU
THINK YOU HOLD...



"...*YOU* AREN'T
SEEING THE
BIGGER PICTURE."





**KRR
RCK!**



To be
continued...

POE DAMERON

NEXT ISSUE:



• Tour •
THE SEVEN SEAS

With

**BLACK MANTA
EMPIRE**



Call 555-FISH